

Sustainable Water Infrastructure Action Items

Goal	Action	Entity	Source Track #, Opening Session, Town Hall Meeting
Define EPA activities to obtain a sustainable water infrastructure	Host Forums to inspire, teach, listen and build networks and share results	EPA	OS
Assist Small Utilities in efforts to obtain SWI	Put Ombudsmen close to Utilities	States	OS
	Develop regional & satellite offices	States	OS
	Provide compliance assistance working alongside the utilities visiting them often	States	OS
Operate utilities to obtain better results and lower operating costs	Utilize Environmental Management Systems Best for mid and larger utilities	Utilities	OS
Guide innovators in the testing and conducting demonstrations of new low cost technologies	Appoint ombudsmen or liaison to move projects forward	States	Track #1
	Build a New Technologies Compliance Assistance Center staffed with technically qualified staff	States, EPA	Track #1
	Build an information platform to identify and contact good candidates for pilot projects, provide the location of technical expertise for States, utilities and cons engineers, and match new technologies with Universities.	EPA, States, Universities	Track #1
Educate decision makers on the new technologies available to obtain results at lower costs	Utilize WEBCASTS to help train decision makers & consulting engineers	EPA, Professional Organizations	Track #1
Level the playing field on	Standardize and publicize stormwater best	EPA	Track #1

stormwater best management practices	management practices		
Reduce difficulties and delays within the regulatory agencies	Improve coordination within EPA Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances	EPA	Track #1
Encourage development of non standard technical solutions	Provide internal and external incentives to award those who think outside the box	EPA, States, Professional Organizations	Track #1
Inspire utilities to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of their organizations	Publicize, promote and reward good examples	EPA, States, Professional Organizations	Track #2
	Implement environmental management systems	Utilities, EPA, States	Track #2
	Conduct asset management	Utilities, EPA, States	Track #2
	Develop a way to measure success to demonstrate the value of EMS & AM programs.	EPA, utilities	Track #2
	Translate available information to help others implement improved systems	EPA, Professional Organizations	Track #2
	Utilize people who have been there done that to help others through the process	Professional Organizations, cons engineers, utilities	Track #2
	Utilize existing resources to help prepare EMS or AM plans such as PEER Centers, MEMP, web resources, county extensions and finance centers	Utilities, States, EPA	Track #2
Reconnect people with regulatory decisions	Improve the opportunity to involve people with the process	States, EPA	Track #2
Reduce the bias for capital solutions to problems	Revise or reduce subsidy programs	EPA, States	Track #2
Reduce the cost of pipe installation	Utilize dual pipe systems. One for existing and one for future needs.	EPA, Sates	Track #2

Utilize regional management solutions by maximizing economies of scale	Resurrect 208 area-wide management plans	EPA, States, State & Federal Legislatures	Track #3
	Regional communities should develop one standardized product	EPA, States, Regional Communities	Track #3
	Provide tools to help small communities make decisions today that will position them better in the future to address changing infrastructure needs	EPA, States, Professional & National Organizations	Track #3
	Develop trust fund for capital finance	State & Federal Legislatures	Track #3
Utilize regional management solutions by regionalizing community education	Resurrect and review 208 area-wide management plans & add to the regional mission	EPA, States, State & Federal Legislatures	Track #3
	Improve cooperation between EPA & States	EPA, States	Track #3
	Improve regulatory certainty in the wet weather areas, especially sanitary sewer overflows	EPA, States	Track #3
	Develop add campaigns about the benefits of regionalization	EPA, States, Professional Organizations, Utilities	Track #3
	Prepare a small town documentary to show the benefits of sharing	USDA- RWA, EPA	Track #3
	Encourage SRF to emphasize regionalization as is done in drinking water projects	EPA, States	Track #3
Raise City Council & public awareness of the value of water by selling the same message	Survey existing add campaigns	EPA, States, Professional Organizations (WEF), Utilities	Track #3

Raise City Council & public awareness of the value of water by selling the same message	Define the message more specifically	EPA, States, Professional Organizations (WEF), Utilities	Track #3
	Market green infrastructure by increasing visibility. Academia should also work with communities to conceptualize & apply GI alternatives	Academia, EPA, States, Utilities	Track #3
	Hold a National meeting as a kick-off for establishing & advertising the value of water	EPA, Professional & National Organizations	Track #3
	Have a National Water Day/Boost water week	EPA, Professional & National Organizations	Track #3
Raise City Council & public awareness of the value of watering a business approach to educate (Asset Management)	Produce scripts to inform public (& city officials)	EPA, States, Professional Organizations (WEF)	Track #3
	Develop or create a documentary of a small community going through this process	Professional Organizations (WEF & AWWA), State Associations	Track #3
Managing using a water shed approach by generating and sharing water quality monitoring data (Chesapeake & Milwaukee)	Publish existing WQM data on the Internet including info pertaining to MS4s, TMDLs & Storet.	EPA, States	Track #3
	Organize existing data on the Internet.	EPA, States	Track #3
	Use a pollutant-loading, cap & trade approach (like carbon trading)	States, EPA, Legislatures	Track #3

Managing using a water shed approach by legislating the unregulated agricultural community	Hire lobbyists.	Regulated community, NACWA	Track #3
	Inform & educate the agricultural community about impending legislation	NACWA, EPA, National & Professional Organizations	Track #3
	Regulatory agencies should inform and educate legislators of agricultural communities' impact on the environment	EPA, States	Track #3
	Encourage case studies for externally organized businesses in the community	EPA, NGOs	Track #3
Variability in commodity costs in planning future capital costs must be considered using innovation/new technology to replace what's not available	Encourage EPA pilot studies for non material intensive infrastructure solutions	EPA	Track #3
	Research the scope prior to implementing new technologies including process and procedures.	EPA, Academia	Track #3
	Identify progressive communities best equipped to execute case studies.	EPA, States, Professional Organizations, Utilities	Track #3
	Reward consultant & utility innovation fairly with respect to the benefit provided	EPA, States, Legislatures	Track #3
	EPA should invest in applied research	EPA	Track #3
	EPA & States should provide Grants.	EPA, States	Track #3
	Cities should adopt new technologies as part of their compliance program	Cities	Track #3
	Academia should research new materials and how to better maintain existing materials to extend their life.	Academia, EPA	Track #3

Variability in commodity costs in planning future capital costs must be considered with better planning & prioritized spending by more accurately estimating life cycle costs	Encourage academia/universities to research and develop workshop for communities and monitor case studies	Academia, EPA	Track #3
	Interested groups should determine existing databases available and develop a new database	Interested groups, EPA	Track #3
	EPA & universities should work to improve ability to model & predict lifecycle of assets on a site specific basis.	Academia, EPA, Utilities	Track #3
	Regulators and universities should change approaches to planning and regulations using knowledge from research.	EPA, States, Legislators	Track #3
	Consultants & EPA should look for cross discipline cooperation (economics, engineering & forecasting)	Consultants, EPA	Track #3
Some systems are facing overcapacity issues due to decreasing populations	Develop information to better inform utilities & States effective procedures to implement infrastructure downsizing	EPA, Consultants, Professional Organizations	Track #3
Reduce challenges specific to small systems	Work to consolidate with larger systems to improve water quality & keep costs down such as a system management intervention program and new systems programs.	EPA, States, Utilities, National & Professional Organizations & Legislatures	Track #4
Reduce challenges faced by systems of all sizes	Promote & utilize the State Revolving Fund so that it is being used to its full potential	EPA, States, Utilities	Track #4
	Expand training opportunities to allow for varying types & sizes of systems	EPA, States, National & Professional Organizations & Legislatures	Track #4
	Asset management should become a necessity.	EPA, States, Legislatures	Track #4

Reduce challenges faced by systems of all sizes	Current operators & City Council members should document managerial & financial decisions so better decisions could be made in the future	Utilities, States, Professional & National Organizations	Track #4
	Regulatory enforcement should transition to become more focused on acute violations and less focused on chronic violations	States, EPA	Track #4
	The operator certification expense reimbursement grants program needs to be promoted.	States, EPA	Track#4
	“Personalized” information should be distributed to customers.	Utilities, States, EPA	Track #4
	Infrastructure needs to plan for both procedural & operational continuity by diagnosing gaps & identifying mechanisms, including the cost to replace key staff and costs of services provided by volunteers.	Utilities, States, EPA	Track #4
	Operators of public water systems should be held responsible for non-compliance in addition to the City councils.	States, EPA, Legislatures	Track #4
	Raise public awareness about the value of drinking water	States, EPA, Professional & National Organizations	Track #4
	Alternative technologies should be promoted including point-of-use devices & bottled water.	States, EPA	Track #4
	Raise the priority of infrastructure in the Federal (& State) budgets.	Legislatures, EPA, States	Track #4
Reduce punishment for trying something new or different.	Reward engineers and utilities for trying something new.	EPA, States, Legislatures	Town Hall Mtg.

Reduce punishment for trying something new or different.	Reward innovators & Academia for design & testing of new solutions.	EPA, States, Legislatures	Town Hall Mtg.
	Reward people for doing a better job on improving utility sustainability	EPA, States, Legislatures	Town Hall Mtg.
Reduce wasteful trends of society, poorer US consumer markets & offshoring of engineering services.	Improve existing operations raise the level of concern regarding climate change & pollution.	Consultants, States, EPA, Utilities, Academia	Town Hall Mtg.
	Look for niches & disciplines in expertise.	Consultants	Town Hall Mtg.
	View projects on a global scale, not on a case by case basis. Consultant has an obligation to inform client if they are going down the wrong road.	Consultants, Professional Organizations	Town Hall Mtg.
	Tap into offshore markets on a marginal basis to reduce costs.	Consultants	Town Hall Mtg.
Improve utility operation	Improve efficiencies through asset management & environmental management system approaches.	Utilities	Town Hall Mtg.
	Educate public as to the value of clean water.	EPA, States, Professional & National Organizations, Utilities	Town Hall Mtg.
	Enforce against violators.	EPA, States	Town Hall Mtg.
	Provide incentive for utilities to operate above the “floor” of compliance.	EPA, States, Legislatures	Town Hall Mtg.
Better define what sustainability is and emphasize certain aspects of it including both social & economic constraints.	Emphasize green infrastructure.	EPA, States, Academia, Consultants	Town Hall Mtg.

Better define what sustainability is and emphasize certain aspects of it including both social & economic constraints.	Emphasize pollution prevention programs.	EPA, States, Academia, Consultants	Town Hall Mtg.
	Emphasize energy efficiency.	EPA, States, Academia, Consultants	Town Hall Mtg.
	Establish that sustainability is not a choice but an ethic.	EPA, States, Professional & National Organizations, Consultants, Academia	Town Hall Mtg.
	Economic constraints need to be converted into design constraints.	Academia, EPA, Consultants	Town Hall Mtg.
	Establish a better means to get things from the lab into the field	EPA, Academia, Utilities, Developers	Town Hall Mtg.
Promote sustainable infrastructure	Create a national database of problems and solutions fed by States, Utilities, Academia and Consultants oversight by EPA.	States, EPA, Utilities, Consultants and Academia	Town Hall Mtg
	Reward those who go above and beyond the limit. Academia could test to make the determination.	EPA, States, Professional Organizations & Academia	Town Hall Mtg.
Learn from the energy industry (on sustainability?)	Evaluate merits from what energy industry has done.	Black & Veatch volunteered to look into the matter.	Town Hall Mtg.
Change future of engineers who are presently hired for previous experience that will need to think differently.	Large exodus of engineers (& others) an impending problem. We need to plan for the future.	Everyone has a role.	Town Hall Mtg.

Change future of engineers who are presently hired for previous experience that will need to think differently.	Need to find ways to deliver the same consulting services for less, increase engineering graduates, become better trained at risk taking and broadcast the importance of engineering & careers available in infrastructure.	Consulting Engineers, Academia, Professional Organizations.	Town Hall Mtg.
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